

IN THE DRAWINGS

Applicants enclose an annotated sheet of Fig. 3 illustrating amendments to the figure for clarification. Applicants also enclose a replacement sheet of Fig. 3 reflecting the amendments.

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 are pending in the application. Applicants amend Fig. 3 to clarify the illustration of its corresponding description in the specification by properly labeling described features. Applicants also amend claims 1 and 8 for clarification. No new matter has been added.

The Examiner and Applicants' undersigned representative, Mr. Dexter Chang (Reg. No. 44,071), conducted a telephone interview on February 23, 2006. Applicants and Mr. Chang thank the Examiner for his time and consideration. During the interview, the Examiner discussed the §112, ¶1 and §103 rejections in the outstanding Office Action.

Claims 1 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. In particular, the Examiner objected to the phrase "by a read data line and a write data line" recited in the claims because these features were apparently absent from Fig. 3. As pointed out during the telephone interview, and as agreed to by the Examiner, page 13, line 22 to page 15, line 5 in the specification includes description of respective read and write direct connections between operation part 35 and register units 32 and 34 illustrated in Fig. 3, which provides clear support for the claimed features of "by a read data line and a write data line." Accordingly, Applicants amend Fig. 3 to clearly label the features described in the above-cited corresponding portion of the specification, and respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the §112, ¶1 rejection.

Claims 1-2 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,145,686 to McMurray et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,076,133 to Toda; and claims 8-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over McMurray et al. in view of Toda, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,732,233 to Klim et al. Applicants

amend claims 1 and 8 in a good faith effort to further clarify the invention as distinguished from the cited references. The Examiner's claim rejections are respectfully traversed.

Mr. Chang pointed out during the interview that the selector 219 illustrated in Fig. 5 of Toda selects between the "external waveform data" and data from its corresponding register 220. And the selector 221 selects between data from its neighbor register 220 and its own corresponding register 222. Thus, the Examiner agreed that in shifting data through a series of registers, Toda does not disclose or suggest a selector that selects between data direct from the processor and data from a neighbor register. As such, even assuming, arguendo, that it would have been obvious to combine the references, the combination would still fail to teach or suggest,

"each of the plurality of registers of the packet data access part is connected to a neighbor register via a selector which selects write data from between the processor and the neighbor register, so as to enable the processor to process the received packet, instead of fully shifting the received packet through the entire series of registers," as recited in amended claims 1 and 8. (Emphasis added)

With respect to claim 8, the Examiner relied upon Klim et al. only for allegedly disclosing "a plurality of processors being connected in series." Thus, even assuming, arguendo, that it would have been obvious to combine the references, the combination would, at most, describe a scheme where processors connected in series, as described in Klim et al., may be used to perform the functions of the registers described in either McMurray et al. or Toda. And a combination of these references would, therefore, still fail to teach or suggest the above-cited features of claim 8.

Applicants respectfully submit that amended base claim 1, together with claim 2 dependent therefrom, is patentable over McMurray et al. and Toda, separately and in combination, for at least the foregoing reasons. Applicants further submit that amended base

claim 8, together with claims 9-10 dependent therefrom, is patentable over McMurray et al., Toda, and Klim et al., separately and in combination, for at least the foregoing reasons.

Claims 3-7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over McMurray et al. in view of Toda, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,519,225 to Angle et al.; and claims 11-12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over McMurray et al. in view of Toda, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,081,538 to Donley.

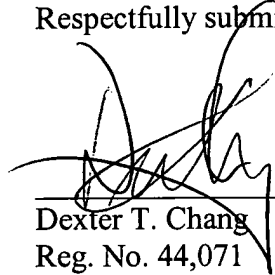
The additional references, Angle et al. and Donley, were cited specifically to address the additional limitations recited in the rejected dependent claims. Therefore, a combination including these additional references would still fail to teach or suggest the cited features of amended base claims 1 and 8 discussed above, even assuming such a combination would have been obvious to one skilled in the art. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 3-7 and 11-12 are patentable for at least the above-stated reasons.

The above statements on the disclosures in the cited references represent the present opinions of the undersigned attorney. The Examiner is respectfully requested to specifically indicate those portions of the respective reference that provide the basis for a view contrary to any of the above-stated opinions.

In view of the remarks set forth above, this application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,


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DTC:bf



Annotated Sheet

FIG.3

